

INTRODUCTION OF THE BRINGING REGULATORY ADVANCES INTO NEUROSCIENCE (BRAIN) ACT OF 2021

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Bringing Regulatory Advances into Neuroscience (BRAIN) Act of 2021.

Today, brain and central nervous system (CNS) disorders account for an incredible burden both on individual patients and their families as well as the United States health care system. One in five adults in America—more than 50 million people—live with a mental illness while 20 million Americans suffer from a neurological condition. Brain diseases and disorders cost the U.S. more than \$1.5 trillion per year, a significant portion of which is paid for by the Medicare program. Seven of the 21 chronic conditions tracked by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are related to the brain and this represents an average annual cost of \$23,325 per Medicare beneficiary, higher than the average cost for all other chronic conditions.

The BRAIN Act of 2021 would establish a Neuroscience Center of Excellence (NCOE) under the Food and Drug Administration. Modeled after the FDA's Oncology Center of Excellence, an NCOE would create opportunities for innovation in the development and regulation of treatments for brain diseases and disorders. By focusing on patients, it would ensure that investments in research are more likely to produce safe and effective treatments which would provide relief for those who have been waiting too long.

The blueprint for a center of excellence like this was included in a discussion draft of 21st Century Cures 2.0, circulated by my colleagues Representatives DEGETTE and UPTON. The draft legislation would require the FDA to create at least two new intercenter institutes, including one focusing on high prevalence and burdensome diseases like those affecting the brain and CNS.

It is clear that there is an enormous need to address these conditions and a Neuroscience Center of Excellence would make significant progress for people who have been suffering for far too long.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY NAACP

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, the rich roots of advocacy, activism, and community organizing etched in the NAACP's history continue to reverberate through the countless lives you all have touched. I am deeply heartened at the opportunity to celebrate the Saint Louis County Chapter of NAACP on 84 years of service and leadership in our community. St. Louis has unquestionably been made better by the work that they all have committed themselves

to, and I am honored to be their representative.

The fight for justice for Black people has been one fraught with pain and strife, but that very pain produces a strength and resilience in each of us that gives us the courage to fight onward amidst the adversity. That resilience is beautifully evidenced in this chapter's work throughout St. Louis. As our office continues to do the most for all people starting with those that have the least, I am grateful to be in this struggle alongside them. I thank the Saint Louis County Chapter of NAACP for their commitment and extend congratulations on 84 strong years.

HONORING DR. JESUS "JV" ROA FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Dr. Jesus "JV" Roa. Dr. Roa is an emergency medicine physician serving Central Florida in the Orlando Regional Medical Center Emergency Department. As the COVID-19 pandemic has evolved, Dr. Roa has been at the forefront of the response. As the director of resident professional development and emergency medicine clerkship director for Orlando Health, Dr. Roa was instrumental in leading the hospital systems' clinical teams in the emergency room. His work involved inspiring team members through challenging days while working long, strenuous hours. Dr. Roa contributed to developing treatment options including the use of emerging therapies for COVID-19 patients. Dr. Roa and his physician colleagues made critical decisions that impacted staff safety and allowed providers to clinically assess and treat patients, as well as deliver outstanding care.

In addition to his work with Orlando Health, Dr. Roa serves as medical director of the Orlando Police Department SWAT team, volunteering his time to train with the team that takes on the most dangerous assignments to resolve critical incidents. Using his military and medical expertise, earned through 20 years of service in the United States Army Reserves combined with three years of active duty as a combat medic prior to medical school, Dr. Roa helps train officers in the use of advanced tactics and specialized equipment, so they are prepared to handle dangerous, high-risk situations.

Dr. Roa trained at the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University and completed a residency in emergency medicine at Orlando Regional Medical Center. He is an assistant professor of emergency medicine at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine.

For this and more, we honor Dr. Jesus Roa.

THOMAS VAN DER MOLEN, EAGLE SCOUT

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, last month, I had the pleasure of attending Thom-

as van der Molen's Eagle Court of Honor. For his Eagle Scout Project, Thomas designed and installed a paved walk path to connect the entrance to the gazebo with the community gardens. The red bricks that compose the walk path were all hand laid and will be enjoyed for years to come. This new walk path will greatly impact the accessibility of the community gardens for those who have mobility impairments and our elderly. Thomas was able to complete this project with the help of his troop, sponsorships from Home Depot and Atlantic Masonry, and his family. Thomas' dedication to this project will give more people the ability to access the gardens and he should be proud of his accomplishments. God Bless Thomas and God Bless America.

IN RECOGNITION OF OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT OFFICIAL KATHLEEN M. MCGETTIGAN ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Kathleen M. McGettigan on the occasion of her retirement after 30 years of federal service at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Ms. McGettigan has dutifully performed in every role she has held at OPM, including as Chief Financial Officer, three separate Deputy Associate Director roles, and multiple appointments as Acting Director of the Agency. Ms. McGettigan holds the distinct honor of being OPM's longest serving Acting Director.

Ms. McGettigan consistently elevated OPM's work and mission throughout her career. She held herself to the highest standards and inspired those around her to do the same. Kathleen M. McGettigan's long and distinguished career exemplifies the very best of public service: dedication to country and commitment to serving the American people.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. McGettigan for her three decades of exemplary service.

RECOGNIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL JANSON D. BOYLES AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the appointment of Major General Janson D. Boyles as the Chairman of the National Guard Association of the United States. Major General Boyles has enjoyed a distinguished career with the National Guard since he was commissioned in the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Mississippi State University in 1982.

General Boyles has displayed exceptional levels of leadership and competence in his service to our state and nation. In 2005, General Boyles managed the United States Army

Engineer Corps response to Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi. Then, in 2008, he deployed to Afghanistan with the 168th Engineer Brigade as Deputy Commander. He took this experience to his role as Chief of Staff of Kosovo forces in 2015. Through his leadership role in medical and engineer units in Mississippi, General Boyles has earned the position of Mississippi's top officer.

As the Adjutant General of Mississippi since 2016, Major General Boyles has led the state's ready force of more than 12,500 Citizen Soldiers and Airmen through crises and deployments, including natural disasters, civil unrest, and assisting the state in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. His leadership has elevated Mississippi's reputation among the country's National Guard units and has demonstrated a commitment to defending country and state through any contingency.

The National Guard Association of the United States in an integral partner to the National Guard's state associations and congressional delegations. The work that they do directly impacts Mississippi, and our state and country will be served well with General Boyles at the helm.

I congratulate Major General Boyles on this excellent achievement in his career. He will be an exceptional leader, and Mississippi is proud of his accomplishments.

HONORING JUANA DIAZ FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Juana Diaz. Juana was born in Polk County, Florida. Her parents immigrated from Mexico to the United States and worked as migrant workers. When Juana was a child, she recalls living in a migrant camp. There, she encountered a public health nurse who came to the camps to administer vaccinations and aid the workers in their overall health. The impact of that moment led her to believe that she could one day be a nurse and help her community.

In 1996, Juana applied to work at Winter Haven Hospital as a ward clerk. After working in the surgical intensive care unit, she recalls how the intensive care nurses were compassionate, caring, and brilliant, which inspired her to pursue a career in nursing. Juana understood that nursing was her calling.

After graduating from Polk Community College with her associates degree in nursing in 2003, Juana began her career in the same unit she started as a ward clerk. Throughout her career, Juana has had the privilege of helping many of her fellow Hispanic patients and families. She understood that language barriers frequently affected the care of these patients and made it her duty to help whenever she could. Juana obtained her certification in critical care nursing in June of 2009 and recently graduated with her bachelor's degree in nursing.

Juana has a strong work ethic, which she inherited from her parents. They came to this country not knowing the language or culture and achieved the American dream for themselves and their children.

For this and more, we honor Juana Diaz.

MARGARET FAUERBACH'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, last month, I had the pleasure of meeting Margaret Fauerbach who turned 100 years old on June 17th. Margaret was raised in Portland with her five brothers. While two of her brothers were serving in the U.S. Navy during WWII, Margaret met a sailor whom she married after a year of dating. Margaret and her husband, Rudy, had a son, Rudy Jr., and moved to Millville soon after. After Rudy was honorably discharged from the Navy, the two had their second son, Donald. Margaret was involved in cub scouts, serving as a cub scout leader, and she was also a Sunday School teacher, a Babe Ruth league volunteer, and served as a sorority leader. For years, Margaret and Rudy traveled in an RV to seashore campgrounds over the summer months. Margaret and Rudy were blessed with four grandchildren and five great grandchildren, who they could not be more proud of. They were married for 72 years before Rudy's passing, and she now enjoys cruises on the riverfront in her golf cart and taking care of her home. God Bless Margaret and her wonderful family and God Bless America.

REMEMBERING ERICKA EDWARDS JONES

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize, remember and mourn the life of a dear friend and sister, Ericka Edwards Jones of Marrero and Algiers, Louisiana.

She lived a life of service and activism throughout her 48 years of life, as a longtime employee of the parish courts, and staffer of former Congressman William J. Jefferson, and as chief deputy of 2nd City Court under the leadership of Clerk Darren Lombard. She served with compassion and honor.

She thoroughly enjoyed politics, but, most importantly, public service. She was an incredible wife, mother, daughter, and friend. We will sorely miss her incredible smile, her leadership, her compassion for service.

Ericka was a devoted elected member of OPDEC. She had a smile that would light up the room. Ericka was passionate, and compassionate, and generous to a fault. She had a strong sense of style. Ericka brought a sense of calm and "I've got it under control" into complex situations.

We will miss Ericka, but her fingerprints will long live in the great works that she leaves behind.

My thoughts and prayers are with her family, with all that knew her, and all that will remember her forever. I'm sending prayers especially to her son Marcus Jones, Jr., her husband Marcus Jones, Sr., and to her parents.

The entire community of New Orleans will miss her deeply. I thank Ericka, and may she rest easy.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF REVEREND ROBERT MOORE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COALITION FOR PEACE ACTION

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rev. Robert Moore for serving as the Executive Director of the Coalition for Peace Action (CPA) for 40 years. Rev. Moore has worked tirelessly on critical issues of peace including gun control, disarmament, the reduction of nuclear weapons, voter engagement, and countless other causes.

In his role as Executive Director, he has led critical peacemaking efforts through the Coalition for Peace Action, which celebrated its 40-year anniversary last year. Rev. Moore led many grassroots initiatives in the United States including the inaugural Peace Voter Campaign in 1995 as well as one of the largest demonstrations in national history in 1982 where one million people gathered in New York to call for a freeze on nuclear weapons.

In honor of Rev. Moore's illustrious career and dedication to peacemaking efforts, the Princeton Municipal Council declared that September 8, 2021 is "Reverend Robert Moore Day" in Princeton, New Jersey. Rev. Moore's dedication to building a more peaceful world is an inspiration to us all and today we celebrate the impact and importance of his work.

I congratulate Rev. Bob Moore on his notable achievements.

HONORING ARNALDO AMOROS FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Arnaldo "Arnie" Amoros. Arnie was born and raised in New York City. He is married to his wife Betsy and together they raised two children. Alex and Alexis, and one granddaughter, Ari. He joined the New York City Police Department in 1980 and retired as a lieutenant. In 2015, Arnie became president of the Fraternal Order of Police of Central Florida continues in this position to this day.

Arnie first came to Central Florida in 1996 as a deputy in the Sheriffs Office where he was instrumental the restructuring of several procedures. During this time, he helped introduce the NYPD's community policing concept to the office. On September 11, 2001, Arnie volunteered to assist in efforts at Ground Zero and remained there for a month. After his time with the Seminole County Sheriffs Office, Arnie fulfilled his duties at the Fire Marshal's Office until 2011 when he retired. However, he